

Message Text

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42

ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ISO-00 IO-09 SWF-02 SPM-01 SP-03

L-03 H-03 EB-11 IGA-02 OMB-01 TRSE-00 PC-10 COME-00

AGR-20 SCI-06 INT-08 DRC-01 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

RSC-01 /186 W

----- 080557

R 171834Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO AMEMBASSY DAKAR

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 4863

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

UNCLAS ROME 6850

AFDROUGHT

SUBJ: SAHEL GRAIN MOVEMENTS

1. ASSUME HUNTER FARNHAM WILL EXPLAIN OSRO'S FUNCTIONS AND MANDATE WHILE IN DAKAR. FARNHAM, WITH HELMAN AND SNYDER, PARTICIPATED WITH THE EEC REPRESENTING ITS MEMBER STATES AND OSRO IN WORKING MEETINGS IN BRUSSELS IN FEBRUARY, WHICH RESULTED IN PLAN/PACING OF SHIPS ARRIVALS. THESE PLANS HAVE BEEN FOLLOWED FOR MOST PART BY ALL DONORS AND THERE ARE DISTINCT LIMITATIONS ON ADJUSTMENTS. BI PROBLEM STILL REMAINS GETTING GRAIN FROM PORTS TO COUNTRIES (AND INTERNAL DISTRIBUTION) WHICH SIMPLY HAS TO HAVE PRIORITY ATTENTION. SAME PROBLEMS WILL EXIST AT ALL PORTS. DAKAR BY ALL ODDS BEST EQUIPPED OF THE PORTS TO HANDLE. OSRO'S INFORMATION GAP HAS BEEN PRIMARILY COMMERCIAL IMPORTS IN ADVANCE OF ARRIVALS AND ANYTHING DAKAR OR BAMAKO IN PARTICULAR CAN PROVIDE TO FILL THIS VOID WOULD BE USEFUL.

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2. AS AID/W FULLY AWARE, MUCH ATTENTION HAS BEEN CENTERED RECENTLY ON OTHER PORTS PARTICULARLY LAGOS/PORT HARCOURT WHERE PICTURE SEEMS TO CHANGE DAILY. WHILE THIS MAY BE OF LITTLE CONCERN TO DAKAR OR MALI, THEY HAVE A GREAT DEAL TO DO WITH GETTING GRAIN TO PLACES IN SAHEL WHERE IT IS MOST NEEDED.

3. OTHER ACTIVITIES OF WHICH FARNHAM SHOULD BE AWARE, IN ADDITION POSTING PAGE/PETRACCHI THREE DANISH TECHNICIANS ARE IN PLACE; TWO ADDITIONAL TRANSPORT SPECIALIST BY NOW SHOULD BE IN BAMAKO (VIA DAKAR) AND MAIDIGURI; THREE OTHERS WILL BE IN PLACE SHORTLY. THIS REFLECTS IN EFFECT THAT SHIPS ARE NOW MOVING THE GOODS BUT COMBINATION OF TRUCKING RAIL AND OTHER MEANS TRANSPORT SIMPLY HAVE TO BE IMPROVED BOTH FROM PORT TO COUNTRY AND IN TERMS INTERNAL DISTRIBUTION. BRITISH RECON TEAM SHOULD BE IN DAKAR BY NOW, PURPOSE BEING IF IT IS FEASIBLE TO PUT UNIFLOAT FERRY (CAPACITY TWO TRUCKS 25 TONS) ON THE ROSSO RUN TO HELP ELIMINATE THAT BOTTLENECK. UNIFLOAT PROBABLY WOULD BE FLOWN TO AREA EARLY JUNGLE NOON CONVERSATIONS ARE UNDERWAY WITH SWISS TO PROVIDE, AS PART OF TEAMS WHICH ARE BEING READIED FOR CHAD BASIN AND ETHIOPIA, TRANSPORT SPECIALISTS WHO MAY BE ABLE HELP INCREASE RAIL CAPACITY FROM DAKAR. (SWISS MAY PROVIDE TOTAL AS MANY AS 100 PEOPLE) UNDERSTAND EFFORTS BEING MADE THROUGH CILSS TO ELICIT REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE OF THIS TYPE. VOLPE

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